

WITH THE COLLEGE ATHLETES

DOINGS IN THE FIELD OF SPORT IN EAST AND WEST.

Prof. Hart of Harvard discusses the Professional Athlete in College Teams.

The Eastern Amateur Athletic Union has elected its officers for the year 1908. The officers are: President, J. H. Sullivan; Vice-President, J. H. Sullivan; Secretary, J. H. Sullivan; Treasurer, J. H. Sullivan; and the Executive Committee, J. H. Sullivan.

It is more than likely that there never will be an entirely satisfactory ending to the discussion about professionalism in college sports, if for no other reason than that there is an absence of agreement on essentials among those who discuss the subject. When for the moment the argument seems checked on one side, it breaks out on another. In a recent letter by Albert Bushnell Hart, professor of history at Harvard, quoted in the *Harvard Bulletin*, Prof. Hart follows, without criticism, Dr. Tucker of Dartmouth in the matter of the status of college baseball players.

Without much difficulty the theme then passes to a general talk about the college athlete who is a professional and who ought to be let alone. Many persons believe that it would be as well to leave the amateur alone too, but unfortunately the amateur gets as much attention as the professional, with the result that the college athlete in general is a much persecuted person. It is going to be very hard ever to come to an end of the argument, but Prof. Hart has some ideas which tend toward an end. In it he says:

"It is just as straightforward for a college student to play baseball for money as to play the piano or to act as a hotel clerk or to tutor a boy. The trouble comes when a college man is found playing under a false name or conceals the fact that he is under money obligation to a hotel proprietor for taking part in what is known to be an amateur nine. Everybody knows that the college crew upon which President Eliot rowed entered for and won a purse of \$50; but everybody who cared knew it at the time; there was no concealment.

"For a college man to play on a professional team sometimes seems to be the undergraduate detective, simply because under the ordinary amateur rules he thus disqualifies himself for taking part in his intercollegiate sports. It is as though a mile runner should deliberately cut off a toe, a toe upon which the college has a just claim for its own services. Undergraduate states, however, in general not so accurately conscious of right and wrong when it comes to bringing professional into the college teams. The coal heaver in George Ade's 'College Widow,' who is induced to come to college to study art, has attended a great many institutions of learning; indeed the athletic graduate of any college can tell you the low state of morals on this subject in some other college. Somehow these pseudo students always go to another college; and it is seldom that any college man or college president has the courage to say frankly that sometimes men appear on their college teams who are not really students.

"The thing is widespread and can be found in many interesting varieties. Sometimes it is an out and out professional who appears thousands of miles from home in the guise of a seeker for learning; sometimes it is a well known university athlete who returns to take a course in classics which he unaccountably missed when in college, but discovers on the day after the great football game that he would rather go into business; sometimes it is the poor boy who would have gone to college anyhow and in whose mind the athletic graduates show unexpected interest; sometimes it is a man who cannot afford to stay in college, but who gets a concession for publishing the official scorecard.

There is not a case cited above that cannot be recalled as having existed in some college in this section. As to the possibility of immaculate purity among the Western and middle Western colleges, the writer is not prepared to testify, but if Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Princeton, Pennsylvania and Cornell, to mention some of the bigger Eastern colleges, cannot find something in Prof. Hart's paragraph which recalls some 'unfortunate incident,' they need mnemonic training to remember the fact.

Prof. Hart continues: "The essence of these practices is fraud; they are an attempt to 'beat the rules,' usually justified by the assertion that the other fellow does the same kind of thing. But why should it be necessary to include among these manifestly improper persons many who have no purpose of study, a host of men who are genuine students but who to help themselves along practice the form of athletics for money? Why should there be such a rigid and unyielding rule against men who have taken a share of gate money? Why should a man who has given boxing lessons be excluded from a football team? The popular belief is that his previous experience will be very useful to him. The reason is simple, founded on the experience of the English with sport, long before it became the principal part of American college life. Men who practice athletics for a living are under a peculiar temptation, for they are paid to win; but they make more money by not winning."

However, it is to be hoped that Prof. Hart does not mean in spite of the fact that the only reason for keeping a professional of a college team is that he might throw the particular important game in which he was taking part. It would be pretty hard for one man to throw any particular game of football or baseball or a track meet, for instance, and it is unlikely that there is reward sufficient for a professional to train for a varsity crew and go through all the preliminary races for the pleasure of being a passenger on the big regatta day and throwing that race.

"Betting on horse races," continues Prof. Hart, "is an even older industry than betting on foot races, and it is the best horse bet which is the horse that will be allowed to come in first. Professional gamblers have included a considerable number of men whose strength and skill on the day of the race depended upon how much their backs might have had to pay for it. Possibly professionals in America are less tricky than in England, but on both sides of the water the only safe way to make money has been to draw a line between those who took part in sport for pleasure and those who took part for a money advantage.

"It is doubtless true, as Dean Briggs remarks, that coaches are very severe with freshmen who treat a serious thing like football as if it were a game. But the coach who sees a mile runner at the finish can imagine that there is very much fun in the last ten seconds; but the principle is logical and easy to apply. Furthermore, it goes to the root of most forms of false play; in some cases the iron moulder plays football for the glory of it, but usually he comes because some one makes it worth while. The American public seems to think that on the whole college men have a very easy time of it and the attitude of athletes who never pass examinations has helped to strengthen this belief. The limitation of intercollegiate contests to college students, the shutting out of first year men, the three year rule, all help to diminish the possibility of making money out of college sports. It is to be hoped that the amateur rules would allow some perfectly straightforward men to earn money in athletics and at the same time to be admitted to college teams. On the other hand it would be a severe blow to the college men all over the country who have for years been laboring to bring it about that no university shall be represented on an athletic field except by genuine sons who are glad to compete for the honor of their college.

And when all is said and done it still stands that the best analysis of the merits of the situation has been made by James E. Sullivan, the head of the Amateur Athletic Union. "To be sure, let any college man compete for money in athletics as much as he pleases, with whatever object he may have, but keep him off the teams in

the colleges. If a man is earning money to pay his way through college by means of professional sport, well and good. That is as honorable as any other ordinary way of earning money. But it is not honorable for that man to play on varsity teams too," says Mr. Sullivan.

The Syracuse University track team this year lost Louis Young and Claude Allen, two valuable men. Young was elected captain last spring but did not return to the team because of another election and the choice may fall on M. F. Horst, the big weight thrower. Syracuse is looking forward to a big track meet in the new stadium for this spring which shall be of importance commensurate with the new place. This is a chance for Columbia to return the meet of 1902, which took place at Syracuse, however. There was to have been a return meet this year following in New York which did not come off. Probably because of the rivalry between the two institutions the Syracuse management will be willing to have the games at home again.

No announcement has been made, but it is pretty well established that there will be a meeting of the Eastern Amateur Athletic Union and Wisconsin, possibly in Syracuse. The Madison contingent spent a great deal of time in the Madison area for the purpose of going out West and it is only fair to expect that the Westerners will be invited to come back. Syracuse is preparing for the season on different lines this year. For one thing, the shell for the varsity eight is to be better fitted to the weight and other conditions. So that if it happens to be rough weather on Onondaga Lake when Wisconsin gets there to row, the distance without handicaps other than natural inability, if that exists.

Mr. P. H. Zipp, who presents Louis Pieper, '08, the recently reengaged coach of the baseball team, with a left handed compliment as follows: "The reappointment of Mr. Pieper as coach of the baseball team, last year's team was considerably better than the team of the year before. The last ten years, but it was fortunate enough to meet a Yale nine that was even weaker, and Harvard won the series. The team ought to profit by his experience and turn out a stronger team next spring; he will have much better material than he had last year."

"We make one suggestion to Mr. Pieper—that he should pay more attention to the conduct of his men while they are on the field. Pieper's bench during a game. Many people know that at the Yale game in New Haven last year, the team and their coach were not creditable to the game or to the university. The Harvard players were doubtless under considerable strain and were particularly wrought up because they were being beaten after they had won in Cambridge, but the conditions were not sufficient excuse for what was said and done. A little good natured rally, but not objectionable, but there are limits beyond which one should not go either in victory or defeat.

Here is an opportunity to add to the eligibility blanks for athletes: If a candidate for a baseball team, define (a) good natured rally, (b) limits of the line in victory or defeat.

FOUND LOST CHILD A REGGAR.

Romantic Story From Moscow of a Girl Who Was Lost in the Far East in the course of the Russo-Japanese war.

A romantic story comes from Moscow of the recovery by her parents of a little girl who was lost in the Far East in the course of the Russo-Japanese war. The father was an officer stationed in the Liaoyang Peninsula whose wife and child had gone out to live with him before the outbreak of hostilities.

All went well until the retreat of the Russian army began. Then a party of the marauding Chinese, who gave both armies so much trouble during the war, fell upon the deserted station and sacked the house which sheltered the mother and child. In the panic the mother was separated from the child and was able to rejoin her husband. The little girl disappeared, and careful search made by the parents after the close of the war failed to develop any clue to her fate, and the parents finally gave her up as dead.

She was not dead, however. She had been seen in the first place by the robbers, but within a day or two they had fallen in with a detachment of Russian soldiers, and all of them were captured or killed. Among those taken alive was the little girl, and as she was able to prattle a little in Russian she was taken to a pet of the soldiers. The regiment into whose hands she fell kept her with them all through the campaign, and one man in particular, a private named Gritzko, made himself her special protector.

After the war the child accompanied the regiment to Moscow. It was disbanded and Gritzko took charge of the child. He sought work in order to provide for her as well as himself. He fell upon hard luck, depending on begging in the street and odd jobs for subsistence, and so great was his devotion to the child that he almost starved himself in order that she might not want. At last in his weakened state he contracted pneumonia from exposure and died in a few days.

The little child was now utterly friendless, and those into whose hands she fell saw in her only a source of profit for themselves. She was driven out on the streets at last. One of the places that she was ordered to haunt was the entrance to the Café Philopoff, a fashionable resort.

One day she was in front of the place when an open carriage drew up and a gentleman and lady stepped out of it. The child stretched out her hand begging for a few kopecks. The lady's eyes grew moist, and she turned to her husband and asked for his purse. Taking a coin from it, she stooped and drew the child to her knees. She was an accompaniment to her lady. As she looked into the little face it seemed as if she recognized something familiar in it. The little girl was gazing eagerly at her, too, and suddenly threw out her arms with a cry of "Mother!"

The mother gave a wild shriek as she clasped her lost child in her arms and fell to the ground in a swoon.

TROUT AT HIGH ALTITUDE.

Stocking a Lake in the Pyrenees Frozen Ten Months a Year.

Trout culture at high elevation has been tried in the Pyrenees with great success. The place selected was the Barronades, which lie at a broad valley 7,000 feet above sea level and has a surface of about twenty-five acres. Long continued observation had established the fact that there were no fish whatever in it. Isolated amid the lonely peaks, no germ of life had ever reached its waters.

In August, 1906, a company of sportsmen who are interested in the Pyrenees had 400 trout spawn carefully carried up to the lake and deposited in the water. By September 1 the entire surface of the lake was frozen over and the ice did not begin to melt again until the first of the year. It was near the end of the month before the entire sheet had disappeared. Then the search for the young fish began and at first there was no result. Not a sign of them could be seen. The sportsmen were about concluding that they had perished when all of a sudden they appeared swimming about the surface of the lake and exploring all the shallow places along the shores. It is believed that their failure to appear at first was due to the coldness of the surface water, which drove them to the depths of the lake, where they found a milder and more constant temperature. Later, as the water grew warmer, they came nearer the surface. The fish will be allowed to grow and multiply for some years before any attempt is made to catch any.

AMHERST'S ATHLETIC TEST

NEW PLAN FOR THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION OF FRESHMEN.

Students Required to Try a Set of Three Athletic Events Upon Entering and Again Four Weeks Later—Good Results Already Attained; Better Expected.

This year at Amherst a new plan of physical education is in operation, so arranged that in effect proficiency in athletic sports has something to do with the awarding of degrees.

An efficiency test was instituted for freshmen so that they were required to try a set of three athletic events upon entrance and after a period of four weeks to go to them again. As the physical education work is required of all who are candidates for degrees, success in these tests is imperative.

Fortunately for the students whose build or whose abilities are likely to unfit them for good work in athletics, the highest test is that of actual gain over previous performance. The men are not and were not expected to set athletic records. It was merely a test of what they could do to better their own previous showing.

The system is a change from the idea of making light and heavy gymnastics the only physical test. As a matter of fact, actual indoor work in the Amherst gymnasium is not to begin until the middle of this month. The students who took the athletic tests have since been engaged in outdoor games. The fact that the charge of the gymnasium, believes that physical educators have been at fault in leaving the outdoor sports to the men on teams, keeping the newcomers indoors the while at the gymnastic work. The fact that the freshmen enjoy the outdoor work more than indoor work is all the more reason for letting them have it.

Incidentally, as it was Amherst under Dr. Hitchcock which made the first great advances in physical education work in the colleges, years ago, it is not inappropriate that a recent improvement should also come from Amherst. To be sure, there has been outdoor work, although not quite of this kind, at Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

The events selected for the members of the class of 1911 at Amherst were the 100 yard run, running broad jump and putting the 12 pound shot. About 100 men took part on each occasion. Values were figured on a percentage basis.

In the dash 12-2-5 seconds counted as 0 in 10-2-5 seconds as 100. The zero point in the leap was 11 feet 8 inches, the high mark being 20 feet.

The best on record in the first test for the three events was 100 yards, 11 seconds; broad jump, 10 feet 3 inches, and shotput, 38 feet 9 inches. In the second test the best marks were: 100 yards, 10-4-3 seconds; broad jump, 20 feet 4 inches, and shotput, 37 feet 8 inches. The intervening training was designed to perfect the men generally and they were not permitted to specialize in any way.

Dr. Phillips has arranged the records of the three men who did the best work on the first test and has shown what they did in the second. In one case there was no improvement, but in the others there was an advance of about 20 per cent. The figures are:

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who improved markedly in everything. The second man's ability in the jump sent his total away up. A leap of 20 feet 4 inches is a good start for a freshman. Any leap of more than 20 feet is considered good for a man who has had only four weeks work at the game. Just exactly as interesting in their way are the figures for the three men who were the poorest athletically in the class. Their real names are omitted. The figures are as follows:

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